

Dear Jim,

The Unimpeachment of Richard Nixon

3/6/76

As you can see from the other side of this wasted sheet the copying began today. The young woman wasted about 10% of the paper, not on purpose. Partly from unfamiliarity with any copying machine and partly as the other side of this shows, because of the problems made by paperclips used by Lil as markers when it was too late for me to go over the places she wanted me to read. So, they are still there for when I can.

This is a monstrous big draft! I knew it was kinda long but not as much as it is. She is in the second box of 500 sheets. She worked 10 hours today and has seven chapters to go besides the first three which I didn't copy because my recollection is they are dated and no longer necessary. But I'll try to check to be sure while she is doing the last seven. It seems to have grown with the lack of prospect.

I have each chapter in a separate file folder. When I gave it to her I remembered that I also wanted to retitile the earlier chapters. They seemed smartalecky, the title.

Too bad there was no time to read it as I wrote it or shortly afterward. At the speed I worked I'll be surprised if some isn't incomprehensible. I look at its size and I wonder that I could have done this with all else I did at that time.

Without doubt there will have to be an axe, not a blue pencil. But the content is there and I don't think it peters out. There is much in it for Democrats, like on the Dark Tennessee Stalking Horse. (That's a pun, son. On "walking horse," for which the Tennessee breed is famous. Or strain if not breed. Been years.) Baker, that is. Not just Ford and New on Nixon. Like what is undoubtedly on that 18 1/2 minutes.

I would like to be able to read it the way it is and correct it merely as a matter of historical record. For the most part this should be done before the heavy cutting anyway.

She'll have it done this coming week. She'll be back Tuesday or Wednesday, I think. When I give it to you remind me to tell you which are the chapters in which you are most interested.

It will go faster now not only because she has done most of it. She was afraid of the machine to begin with but now she knows how to use it. She was really just afraid, probably because she is uneasy about the new.

I didn't know it but I know her husband. He is an assistant manager at a People's here. Funny story how we met him. Lil had a Bloch friend who lived in an apartment complex behind the shopping center in which Lil's office is. We used to visit there once in a while. They had two young, bright, inquisitive boys under ten. One night they were late coming home. So, we went out looking for them. The Husband and I went through the shopping center first, figuring there were no end of attractions to young boys there. Well, the People's is at the opposite end and it is a long mart. Before we got there we knew something was up because people were gathered and there were police cars all around. When we got there we saw these two scared kids inside the glass door looking out. Seems they had wandered in to go to the toilet just as the store was being locked up for the night. By the time they left the toilet the store was closed. As they blundered around for a way to get out, not thinking of using a phone to call home, they set off burglar alarms. The guy who came to let them out was the nice fellow. Nothing happened but it was an excitement for a while. This woman is his wife. She has gone back to college part-time hoping to find something with which she can get better part-time work for now, while her kids are young, and more later.

Best,